

## SIGNAL online 2005

**Archives** 

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#### 1. HOLIDAY PERIOD - DELIVERY SERVICES AND SOLS OFFICE

The SOLS Toronto office will be closed from Monday, December 26, 2005 until Monday, January 2, 2006, and will reopen at 8:30 am on Tuesday, January 3, 2006. The delivery routes

will operate on Friday, December 23, 2005, following the regular schedule. The routes will not operate during the holiday season from Monday, December 26, 2005 until Monday, January 2, 2006. On Tuesday, January 3, 2006, the regular schedule will resume for all routes but Route E. Details for Route E will be sent directly to the libraries on this route.

#### 2. CONSORTIA PURCHASING AGREEMENT FOR DELL COMPUTERS

SOLS negotiates **charitable/consortia purchasing agreements** (CPAs) on behalf of SOLS libraries. CPAs are 'economies of scale' pricing for the purchase or lease of a range of goods and services.

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, SOLS CEOs and SOLS CPA listserv participants were notified that the DELL CPA was extended from November 1, 2005 to January 31, 2006. In response to requests from user libraries, SOLS has negotiated leasing options for Dell desktop and notebook packages purchased by libraries. With the discounts, the lease prices are lower than those offered to government (including municipalities).

For details, contact Ryan Lee, the Dell salesperson responsible for our account, at ryan c\_lee@dell.ca or at 1-800-387-5755 ext. 2211.

Further information on Charitable/Consortia Purchasing Agreements can be found at <a href="http://www.sols.org/resourcesharing/coolcpa/cpa/index.htm">http://www.sols.org/resourcesharing/coolcpa/cpa/index.htm</a> or contact Daryl Novak, Director of Operations, at 1-800-387-5765, ext. 5135.

# 3. SOLS NEGOTIATES CONSORTIA PURCHASES ON PRODUCTS THROUGH COOL - SINCE 1998

In addition to goods under the CPA, SOLS staff have also negotiated consortia purchasing for library products under the COOL initiative. Consortium of Ontario Libraries (COOL) is a buying group for electronic journals, magazines, ebooks and other products not available for free on the Web. Public, university, college and school libraries purchase licenses and ebooks for deeper discounts than they could achieve alone. More information about COOL is posted on the SOLS website at http://www.sols.org/resourcesharing/coolcpa/index.htm

COOL was first established in **1998**, when the group negotiated deals on four different electronic products. Since that time, many, many products and services have been offered to libraries through COOL. Over the past month, **seven different products** were made available through the COOL buying group. In each case, an e-mail, with details of the offer, was sent to the Library CEO, as well as to the COOL contact person in the library. For further details on any of the offers, or for trial access, please contact Brenda Lewis, Information Services Representative, at the SOLS Toronto office by telephone at 416-961-1669, ext. 5130, or 1-800-387-5765, ext. 5130 or by e-mail at blewis@sols.org. The seven offers are as follows:

- a) Gale Group CPI.Q CPI.Q, the electronic version of the Canadian Periodical Index, provides the most-requested Canadian reference information available. It includes full-text articles from 1983 and indexed articles from 1977. The pricing is based on "weighted users". There will be an evaluation trial for new subscribers until December 23<sup>rd</sup>. The final deadline for renewals and new subscriptions will be **Friday, December 16, 2005.** There is also an early bird discount of 4% which applies to renewals and new subscriptions received by Friday, December 9, 2005.
- b) **Gale Group Databases** The information package for Gale Group online databases for 2006 offered to the COOL public library sector includes fifteen different products. Through

COOL, it is possible to obtain good pricing levels on products such as Lit Finder, Science Resource Center, Chilton Library, Book Review Index Online, Biography Resource Centre, General Reference Centre (Regular, Select or Gold), Times Digital Archive 1785-1985, Business and Company Resource Centre, Student Resource Centre Gold, What Do I Read Next?, Gale Literary Combo, Literature Resource Centre and Health and Wellness Resource Centre. If you are interested in subscribing to,or renewing, any of these products, please order or confirm your intention to renew by Thursday December 15, 2005.

- c) EBSCO The information package for Ebsco online databases for 2006 offered to the COOL public library sector includes fourteen different products. Through COOL, it is possible to obtain good pricing levels on products such as MasterFILE Premiere or Elite, Canadian Reference Centre, HealthSource; Consumer Edition, Middle Search Plus & Primary Search, Canadian Literary Centre, NoveList, MagillOnLiterature Plus, Auto Repair Reference Centre, Book Index with Reviews, as well as three Marshall Cavendish products Science Reference Centre, Wildlife Reference and Multicultural Reference Centre. The deadline for renewals and new subscriptions on EBSCO products is Friday, December 16, 2005.
- d) Facts on File The FACTS.com database covers more than 60 years of Facts on File World News Digest, plus selected contents from six other reference databases. The Issues and Controversies on File (ICOF) database covers over 70 controversial topics handled each year, with files back to 1995. Trial access is available for both Facts.com Services and Facts for Learning Service until December 31st. For libraries that place their orders before December 15th. Facts on File News Services will provide access for the month of December 2005.
- e) eLibrary Canada The information package for eLibrary Canada and eLibrary Elementary for 2006, offered to the COOL public library sector, was distributed via e-mail on November 24, 2005. Trial access is available until December 31, 2005. All new subscribers who commit by Friday, December 16, 2005 will receive a 10% discount off the current SOLS/COOL prices.
- f) Micromedia-Proquest's "Canada's Heritage from 1844" "Canada's Heritage from 1844" is an online digitized full-image version of the complete works of *The Globe and Mail* newspaper since its inception as *The Globe* in 1844. Trial access is available for this product. Only new subscribers who confirm by the response deadline will be eligible for an additional 10% discount. The response deadline for ordering / renewals is **Thursday**, **December 15**, 2005.
- g) Bibliography of Native North Americans On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, libraries were notified that SOLS is in the process of negotiating consortia pricing for the *Bibliography of Native North Americans* with Ebsco, and that the database is available for evaluation for Ontario public Libraries. To access the *Bibliography of Native North Americans* trial, please contact Brenda Lewis for the user ID and password. BNNA is a bibliographic database covering all aspects of native North American culture, history, and life. This resource covers a range of topics, including archaeology, multicultural relations, gaming, governance, legend, and literacy. BNNA contains more than 80,000 citations for books, essays, journal articles, and government documents of the United States and Canada. Dates of coverage for included content range from the sixteenth century to the present.

#### 4. UPDATE ON VDX UPGRADE TO NEW VERSION - Target date December 13, 2005

#### a) VDX Upgrade

SOLS and Fretwell Downing (the VDX vendor) have negotiated a switchover date for the 2.73 upgrade on our VDX production system. Interlibrary Loan staff in libraries were provided with an Orientation Guide to work through using a test system to become acquainted with changes in the new version. The VDX system will be down over the December 9<sup>th</sup> weekend (Friday to Monday inclusive) for the production install and will be available again to users on Tuesday,

December 13, 2005 (or as advised by email).

On November 11, 2005, VDX users were notified of an Orientation Guide for users to work through to prepare themselves for the VDX upgrade to version 2.73 in December. By November 28<sup>th</sup>, 168 libraries had submitted confirmation that they have completed the orientation guide. As there are 266 libraries using VDX, responses from 98 more libraries are needed. If your library has not gone through this procedure, the orientation guide and procedures for the VDX 2.7 test system are posted at <a href="http://www.sols.org/resourcesharing/INFO/vdx/testing.htm">http://www.sols.org/resourcesharing/INFO/vdx/testing.htm</a>. If, after going through the orientation guide for the VDX 2.73 test system, you feel you would benefit from an online tutorial, you may request one when submitting the online confirmation form.

## b) Library Book Rate

Some libraries have contacted SOLS HelpDesk to ask about the new Canada Post Shipping Tool for Library Book Rate mailing labels. The shipping tool is to create the label for the destination library (VDX users currently use the VDX produced mailing label). The shipping tool does not produce a pre-paid return mailing label. Libraries still need to provide return labels as they have been doing. SOLS HelpDesk has applied for registration so we can try out the shipping tool to be able to assist libraries with its use should we have inquiries. We will send an advisory to all ILL Department staff when we have some feedback on using the shipping tool. To become informed see http://www.cla.ca/EOE\_SCE\_Prod/

#### 5. ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION

The Ontario Trillium Foundation delivers two granting programs, the Community program and the Province-Wide program. Both programs help build healthy and vibrant communities throughout Ontario by strengthening the capacity of the voluntary sector through investments in community-based initiatives. Public libraries became eligible for the OTF **community program** following the completion of the strategic initiative for small libraries. There is no special, separate program for libraries.

Under the OTF Guidelines, small municipalities (populations of 20,000 or less) and Local Services Boards may apply for Community grants in the arts and culture and sports and recreation sectors only. An application may include funding for more than one initiative in a sector as long as the initiatives have related goals and outcomes. Small municipalities and Local Services Boards may hold two grants at a time provided one of the grants is for a library. Applications, on behalf of a library or any other municipal agency, must be submitted by the municipality itself. Operating costs that have been previously funded by the municipality are not eligible for OTF funding.

Applications for grants for **municipal libraries** serving small communities (populations of 20,000 or less) must be submitted through the municipality. Applications for grants for **county libraries** serving small municipalities (populations of 20,000 or less) must be submitted through the County Library Board. Applications for grants for **First Nation libraries** must be submitted through the First Nation's Band Council. Applications for grants for Local Services Boards providing library services must be submitted through the Local Services Board.

A copy of the application process is posted on the Foundation's website at <a href="http://www.trilliumfoundation.org/OTF-English/new/index.htm">http://www.trilliumfoundation.org/OTF-English/new/index.htm</a> There is also a link to the Trillium website from the main SOLS page at <a href="https://www.sols.org">www.sols.org</a>. The deadlines for the 2006 round of applications are March 1, July 1 and November 1 – at 5:00 pm on the deadline date.

### 6. FIRST NATIONS PUBLIC LIBRARY WEEK 2006

The First Nations Public Library Week planning committee has been laying the groundwork for the 2006 program and everyone is invited to participate in the celebrations. Here is information to help get your library's planning underway. The dates for First Nations Public Library Week will be February 13-18, 2006.

Theme: "Preserving Our Cultures Story by Story ... Building Our Communities Book by Book"

The inspiration for the theme grew out of artwork we are using for the 2006 poster. Once again, our aboriginal colleagues in Saskatchewan are delighted with our theme selection and will use it for their 2006 Aboriginal Storytelling Week (which also takes place in February).

Poster: We are confident you are going to be pleased with the 2006 poster. We encountered Yukon batik artist, Lynn Blaikie, at the 2004 Christmas One of a Kind craft show in Toronto last December. "Storytime," one of the works of art she was displaying, seemed ideal for our purpose and, after learning about the First Nations Public Library and Aboriginal Storytelling Week programs, Lynn graciously agreed to allow us to use "Storytime" as our 2006 poster graphic. Once again, the Ontario Library Association is supporting First Nations Public Library Week by designing, printing and distributing the poster to ALL public libraries in Ontario. Your library will receive its poster in January.

For more information, contact Patty Lawlor, First Nations Consultant, at 1-800-387-5765, ext. 5107 or plawlor@sols.org. You will find more information about First Nations Public Library Week 2006, as it becomes available through December and January, on the SOLS web site at: http://www.sols.org/marketing/fnpubliclibraryweek/index.htm.

#### 7. THE ISSUE OF MANDATORY RETIREMENT - INFORMATION AND WORKSHOP

Bill 211, which is the bill to enact the Ending Mandatory Retirement Statute Law Amendment Act, 2005, is still before the Legislature and has not yet been passed. If passed, Bill 211 would change the Ontario Human Rights Code which currently allows for discrimination in employment for those 65 and older. The amendment would prohibit employers from forcing employees to retire. A single exception will be when mandatory retirement could be justified on "bona fide occupational requirement" grounds determined under the code. SOLS staff have compiled a summary of the potential impact of this legislation. The summary is now posted in the Clearinghouse section of the SOLS website. You can find the materials in the sub-section entitled "Legislation Affecting Public Libraries in Ontario". The direct link to this summary is http://www.sols.org/links/clearinghouse/legislation/resources/bill211mandatoryretirement.htm

In light of these changes, on December 12, 2005, SOLS will host a legislative update workshop which will cover the end to mandatory retirement. The workshop will be given by Barbara Humphrey, a management and labour lawyer with Stringer, Brisbane, and Humphrey. Although we thought of having two workshops, there was insufficient interest in a morning session. There will be one workshop at the Bathurst-Clark Resource Centre at Vaughan Public Library on Monday, December 12, 2005 from noon to 4pm. This workshop is full.

#### 8. SOLS TRAINING WORKSHOPS

One of the "ends" for SOLS is that "libraries are equipped to meet future challenges and opportunities". With this in mind, on an ongoing basis, SOLS staff arrange workshops on a variety of topics at various locations across Ontario. In the fall of 2005, there were workshops

on seven different topics that were held in 21 locations and a total of 402 people registered for those SOLS workshops. There are two remaining workshops planned for December 2005.

- On Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, the final offering of a workshop called "Opening Doors to Children: Reading, Media and Public Library Use by Children in Six Canadian Cities A presentation of the research and a discussion of the implications for library services to children" will be held at the Bowmanville branch of the Clarington Public Library. Our presenter, Ken Setterington, will present an overview of the findings from this in-depth study of library services to children. Following the presentation, Ken will conduct a discussion of possible implications for library services. There are still a few spots for this workshop, and if you wish to register, go to http://www.sols.org/librarydev/training/clinicsworkshops/workshop6.htm
- On Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 4 pm, the legislative update workshop on mandatory retirement will be held. This workshop is full.

From time to time, training sessions are affected by weather-related problems. SOLS has set up a telephone extension in the Toronto office for information on possible cancellations. To check workshop status, please call 1-416-961-1669, ext. 6 or toll-free to 1-800-387-5765, ext. 6.

SOLS staff are now planning for the Spring 2006 workshop series. Information about the next round of workshops will be posted on the SOLS website in mid-January 2006 at http://www.sols.org/training/workshops/index.html.

Another training opportunity - The Ottawa Public Library has asked SOLS to extend an invitation to area libraries to attend a one-day workshop for the "Every Child Ready to Read" early literacy program. This PLA/ALSC sponsored program provides resources for library systems of all sizes to use in disseminating early childhood information to parents, child care providers, and early childhood educators. Ottawa has hired Saroj Ghoting, a trainer from ALA, to run the workshop. Saroj is also the co-author of an ALA publication entitled Early Literacy Storytimes @ your library: Partnering with caregivers for success. The workshop is intended for people who do children's storytimes in public libraries and will provide an overview of the initiative, and how to put these ideas into your pre-school programs. The event will be held on Thursday, February 2, 2006 at the Ottawa Public Library, Main branch auditorium. The cost for participants outside of the Ottawa Public Library system will be \$50 for the full day. If you would like to participate, contact Nancy McPherson of SOLS by e-mail at . Payment will be made directly to the Ottawa Public Library on the day of the workshop. For more information about the workshop, please contact Jane Venus at the Ottawa Public Library at (613) 236-0302 ext 562 or by e-mail to Jane Venus@library.ottawa.on.ca

# 9. EXCEL – DISTANCE EDUCATION FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES –Registration deadline – Friday, January 6, 2006

SOLS has been offering its distance education program called EXCEL since 1998. Over 500 individuals have completed the requirements for the certificate program, and many more have taken specific courses of interest to them. The information about the **2006 Winter** semester of the EXCEL program, as well as a registration form, has been posted on the SOLS web site at <a href="http://www.sols.org/librarydev/training/excel/RegistrationInfo.htm">http://www.sols.org/librarydev/training/excel/RegistrationInfo.htm</a>. The registration deadline is **Friday**, **January 6**, **2006**.

In English, we are offering the following courses for the Winter semester:

#1 - Introduction to Public Libraries

#5 - Library Marketing

#7 - Collection Development for Children

#8 - Collection Development for Young Adults

#9 - Collection Development for Adults - revised for this semester

- #11 Communication Skills
- #12 Collection Organization
- #16 Professional Development (web-based)
- #17 Electronic Information Sources (web-based) revised for this semester

In French, we are offering the following courses for the Winter semester:

- #1 Introduction aux bibliothèques publiques
- #3 Supervision
- #16 Formation professionnelle (course en ligne)
- #17 Ressources électroniques d'information (course en ligne) révisé

## 10. TD SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2006 - Registration deadline F. Jay, January 20, 2006

Since 2000, the Southern Ontario Library Service has supported the TD Summer Reading program by coordinating the program registration and assuming full responsibility for the distribution of TD Summer Reading materials to libraries across southern Ontario. In 2005, 167 of the 193 public libraries across southern Ontario participated in the program.

In 2006, the program will, once again, be available to public libraries across Ontario, with SOLS assuming the same responsibilities for the program as in the past. The program continues to be sponsored by the TD Financial Group and the posters, booklets and other resource materials are, once again, being developed by the staff at the Toronto Public Library, the Ottawa Public Library and Library and Archives Canada.

The 2006 TD Summer Reading program theme is "Quest for Heroes", which includes community heroes, family heroes, heroes in myths and legends, modern heroes - the whole works!! The illustrator for the 2006 TD Summer Reading program will be Martha Newbigging. Martha Newbigging has illustrated six children's books, including Research Ate My Brain: The Panic-Proof Guide to Surviving Homework, written by the Toronto Public Library (Annick 2005), Attack of the Killer Video Book: Tips and Tricks for Young Directors, written by Mark Shulman and Hazlitt Krog (Annick 2004) and Archers, Alchemists and 98 Other Medieval Jobs You Might Have Loved or Loathed, written by Priscilla Galloway (Annick 2003).

The registration form for the program is posted on the SOLS website at http://www.sols.org/marketing/summerreading/orderform.htm . The registration deadline for the program is **Friday**, **January 20**, **2006**.

#### 11. TRUSTEE COUNCIL LISTSERVS

In the fall of 2005, eight Trustee Council meetings were held across southern Ontario. At those meetings, it was announced that public library board members who attend specific SOLS Trustee Council meetings, would be eligible to participate in one of the eight trustee council listservs. The purpose of the list is to provide a forum for trustees to share information, follow-up on issues discussed at the meeting, and post questions to fellow trustees. We added the e-mail addresses for those trustees we know, but to add a trustee e-mail address to a specific list, please see the "Networking" section of the SOLS website at http://lists.library.on.ca/mailman/listinfo/.

#### 12. NEW POOL INITIATIVES

On November 24, 2005, a message was sent through the SOLSCEO listserv regarding new pool initiatives for the libraries in the province. Ontario Library Service-North (OLS-N) is taking over any new pool initiatives for the libraries in the province. Both SOLS and OLS-N have different procedures in place and we would like to form a committee to advise OLS-N on choosing the best of these procedures. For those of you who are not aware, pools are collections of material shared by many libraries. Libraries pay a fee to be part of a pool and in return, they will have access to all titles purchased. Once all the materials are purchased, they are then rotated from library to library by a pre-determined set time until the terms of the agreement are met. Participating in pools allows libraries to make the most out of their money. We are seeking volunteers to sit on this committee. All meetings will be held by teleconference. If you are interested, please contact Dana Seabrook at dseabrook@olsn.ca. If you have questions, please contact Lorraine Leblanc at 1-800-461-6348 ext. 207 or Dana Seabrook at ext. 229.

# 13. LIBRARIES-HELPING-LIBRARIES PROGRAM UPDATE: A THIRD PARTNERSHIP ESTABLISHED

Further to Signal's call last month to municipal libraries interested in supporting First Nation public library development, a new Libraries-Helping-Libraries partnership will begin in January 2006. The participants, Curve Lake First Nation and Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Libraries, look forward to developing this cultural-bridging and collections-based relationship. SOLS continues to work with other potential partners and looks forward to making another partnership announcement in the December issue of Signal.

For more information, see the Libraries-Helping-Libraries Program item in the October 31 issue of Signal (http://www.sols.org/librarydev/publications/signal/index.htm) and/or contact Patty Lawlor, First Nations consultant, at 1-800-387-5765, ext. 5107 or plawlor@sols.org.

#### 14. ADDITIONS TO THE WEBSITE

Each week, the SOLS web editor adds numerous links to the Clearinghouse section of our website located at http://www.sols.org/links/clearinghouse/index.htm.

A recent question on one of the listservs concerned the "value of libraries". All of the references cited in the responses have been collected in the Clearinghouse section of our website – specifically in a sub-section called "Reports of Interest in Library Research" at <a href="http://www.sols.org/links/clearinghouse/research/reportsofinterest.htm">http://www.sols.org/links/clearinghouse/research/reportsofinterest.htm</a>. At that page, you will find links to the following references:

- Citizens First 3 The Institute for Citizen-Centred Service website address is http://iccs-isac.org/eng/cf-02.htm
- Dividends: The Value of Public Libraries in Canada, which was published in 1997 by the Library Action Committee of the Book and Periodical Council. The direct link to this publication is http://www.nald.ca/fulltext/dividend/contents.htm
- Interesting Facts about Canadian Public Libraries from Library Advocacy NOW! Section
  of the Canadian Library Association. The direct link to this information is
  <a href="http://www.cla.ca/divisions/capl/advocacy/quotes.htm">http://www.cla.ca/divisions/capl/advocacy/quotes.htm</a>
- Reading and Buying Books for Pleasure is the report from a 2005 national survey which
  was submitted to Canadian Heritage Industry Development Publishing Policy and
  Programs. The direct link to this report is http://www.canadianheritage.gc.ca/study/
- The Value of Canadian Libraries: Impact, Normative Data and Influencing Funders is a
  document written by Steve Abram in 2005. The document is posted at
  http://www.sirsi.com/Pdfs/Company/Abram/StephenAbram\_ValueCanadianLibraries.pdf

#### 15. SOLS IN THE COMMUNITY

Patty Lawlor, First Nations consultant, is co-chairing the Canadian Library Association's Aboriginal People's Interest Group for the 2005-2007 term. She shares the responsibility with Deborah Pelletier, Manager, Aboriginal Heritage Initiatives, Strategic Office, Library and Archives Canada.

Patty Lawlor represented SOLS at a consultation on Digital Libraries and Aboriginal Communities on November 25. The workshop, hosted by the Faculty of Information Studies at the University of Toronto and the Keewaytinook Okimakanak, a treaty council representing six First Nation communities in Ontario's far north, brought together a range of resource people from various sectors (First Nation communities, Ontario's Lieutenant Governor, education, public libraries, health, technology) to reflect on the feasibility of developing digital libraries for, and with, Aboriginal communities.

Several SOLS staff members will be participating in OLA sessions. Anne Marie Madziak is working with Deb Jackson on a session called "Charting new territory. The Library Board's role in planning and budgeting for future success". This session is #318 and will be presented on Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:05 am.

Rob Lavery is presenting a session entitled "Building Philanthrophy. Funding programs libraries should be doing". This session is #1017 and will be presented on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:05. His second session is called "Please Mr. Postman: Starting a Direct Mail Campaign", which will be presented with Ann Andrusyszyn from Barrie Public. This session is #1709 and will be presented on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:05.

Laurey Gillies will be presenting a session, with Jim Morgenstern, on the Library's Contribution to your Community. This session is #1314 and will be presented on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:45 pm.

#### 16. SOLS CEO LISTSERV

SOLS maintains a list of all the e-mail addresses for SOLS CEOs. It is this list that is used to distribute Signal. Several times through the month, you may also receive other messages from SOLS. This month, the following messages were sent:

- From November 15<sup>th</sup> to November 25<sup>th</sup>, Brenda Lewis sent a series of messages about COOL consortium buying on various library products. These messages are summarized earlier in this issue of Signal
- On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Brenda Lewis sent a message regarding a 24 hour special that ran from November 22<sup>nd</sup> to midnight on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. During this time, a 90% discount was offered on TumbleTalkingBook and TumbleReadable Collections. The subscriptions were for 12 months and include UNLIMITED remote access and unlimited exchanges. For example, during this period, the cost of a 65 title Read-Along Collection which combines online large print text with full unabridged audio would be \$200, against a regular price of \$2000. The cost of the 400 book TumbleTalkingBook Collection during this period was \$440, against the regular price of \$4400.

If you did not receive these messages, and would like further information, please contact the SOLS HelpDesk at 1-800-387-5765, ext. 4, or by e-mail to helpdesk@sols.org

#### 17. NEW SOLS BOARD MEMBER

SOLS is governed by a board of twenty, with five individuals nominated directly by the Minister of Culture, and fifteen members elected from Trustee Councils. Bob Ernest, from Waterloo, is a new SOLS board member, representing Trustee Council 3.

Bob Ernest is vice-chair of the Waterloo Public Library board and is also a member of the provincial executive of the Ontario Library Boards Association. He is a retired teacher and education consultant. He was also involved with his teachers' federation and is now an honorary member of the Waterloo Local of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario. He is now active with the Waterloo branch of the Retired Teachers of Ontario serving on the local executive. Bob also serves on the provincial executive for an Ontario political party. He also is a part-time produce vendor at the Goderich Farmers' Market during the summer

All issues of SIGNAL can be viewed online at <a href="http://www.sols.org/librarydev/publications/Signal/index.htm">http://www.sols.org/librarydev/publications/Signal/index.htm</a>. However, if anyone would like to receive the e-mail version of this newsletter, please send a message to signal@sols.org. You can reach the editor of SIGNAL at: signal@sols.org or by telephone at 1-866-380-9767.

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